

Lesson Plan: The Structure of Virginia Local Government

Connection to POS: Benchmark 4.25 – Powers and Characteristics of Local Government in Virginia

This lesson focuses on “the basics,” i.e. the essential structure and characteristics of Virginia’s local government organization.



Objectives

At the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- Explain the origins of Virginia’s unique local government organization.
- Define numerous terms essential to understanding local government.



Materials

- Quiz/Worksheet
- Student Handout – Local Government in Virginia



Time Needed

- 45 minutes or as a homework assignment



Procedures

1. Begin by distributing copies of Student Handout – Local Government in Virginia
2. Assign the handout as a reading assignment. Students can complete the Quiz/Worksheet as an in-class or homework assignment, or it could be used as a pre-quiz or actual quiz before or after the reading has been completed.



Assessment

Questions could be developed on your own for an upcoming quiz or test, or the Quiz/Worksheet can be assigned for a grade. Important vocabulary terms are italicized.



Extensions

Assign students to do independent research in which they compare Virginia's local government structure to that of other states.